

On Marxism and Holderlin Paths – Notes, 1958, 1921, and Recently, 2021.

By Walter Benjamin

Introduction

I meant notes, just that process
which then is notes here and
there, lost and found objects.

I am busy living life to the fullest
again since my youth – call this
happiness. I also mean Sirohi is
busy talking of insurrection and
politics in Heidegger these days.

I am insurrection with him. This
is my Holderlin passages – I mean
keep being into Holderlin Sirohi
once argued – the doctor as
deterministic and immortal – us
as free with the doctor – and now

and then fever as feverish and bouts of fever – only then is the image of happiness a surrealist flash – I mean I smoked a Hookah recently and wrote notes on Turkish architecture – that watery sense of people crossing the bridge in Istanbul and their playing of cards in the evening.

I. How Erfuntang History is Written

What I call the Erfuntang style of history in Marx, the more delicate to the senses stylism.

It means a person is seen first by his reflection in a windowsill.

History is then written.

II. German Tragic Drama

I mean Marx leads us straight to German tragic drama, the Baroque which means a tragedy averted, by jokes and Messianic remembrance of youth.

III. Youth and Marxism

Just speed in buses, and making it to school. Just that is Prophetic.

Part II

I. Fever (2025)

I have fever, Sirohi, Jewish Young Prophet declares.

We, Jewish people are feverish.

In a surrealist flash, he
remembers his youth. And even a
physician he used to go to.

Finally he speaks of dreamy
Soviet curing of talking in politics
- and this then heals us.

Images of history - dialectical
images, and standstills, - see the
young man, just working on his
spectacles and reading and
writing and reflecting.

Images abound - (2021) - I am
free of my hospital bound life in
Israel and in Romania, Hungary
and Slovenia and Spain.

Those days I slept mostly, I also
was delirious, I tell Sirohi, Jewish
young Prophet.

Images nowadays is abounding
with dialectics I tell him – earlier
a flat image of sleeping and
waking up and walking
downstairs – how people live not
in Erleibnis at all.

Nowadays, walking to the office
in Delhi, and buying newspapers,
and reading Economic Times.